

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. The Amendment is believed to place the application in condition for allowances and is, therefore, appropriate under Rule 116. The Amendment does not raise any new issues and, thus, does not require an additional search by the Examiner. The issues raised by the new claim 5 and 6 are the same issues raised by the presently pending claims 1, 2 and 4.

The Amendment was not earlier presented because applicant became familiar with new grounds for rejection only after they were first set forth in the final Office Action.

By the present amendment, claims 1, 2 and 4 are canceled, and claims 5-6 are added.

Based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2 and 4 as being obvious over Hermann, German Publication DE 200 22 511 (DE '511) in view of Dunne, U.S. Patent No. 5,926,2609 (Dunne). Claim 4 was rejected as claims 1, 2 above

and further in view of Win, U.S. Patent No. 4,730,190 (Win). It is respectfully submitted that claims 5-6 are patentable over the cited references.

Specifically claim 5 recites that the additional input means is formed as push-button.

Applicants respectfully submit that it would not have been obvious to replace the push-button-shaped input means of Dunne for the additional means (10) of DE '511 (Hermann). The additional means (10) of DE '511 forms an interface for connecting the laser measuring device with a computer and forms a component of the invention. It is noted that the interface (10) for exchanging data with a computer is specifically claimed (claim 6). Claim 6 reads as follows:

6. A laser measuring apparatus according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that there is (are) provided one or several interfaces (10, 10a) for transmitting data from a computer and/or communicating data to the computer.

Replacing the additional means (10) of Hermann with push-button input means of Dunne would be contrary to the teachings of Hermann. In Hermann, for initiating a measurement operation the push-button (6) is used.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Hermann and Dunne would be unobvious, and that claim 5 is allowable over said combination.

Claim 6 depends on claim 5 and is allowable as being dependent on an allowable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects, in order to place the case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendment or correction be carried out by Examiner's amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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